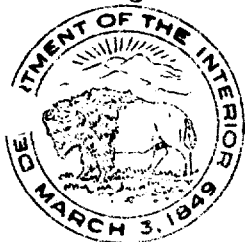


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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release APRIL 14, 1955

FWS ESTABLISHES NEW FISHERY FIELD OFFICES

Four new market development offices for the field promotion of fishery products by the Fish and Wildlife Service under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act (Public Law 466, 83d Congress), have been opened this week, Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay announced today.

Established in accordance with the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act's aim "to promote the free flow of domestically produced fishery products in commerce," these offices are located in Seattle, Wash., San Pedro, Calif., New Orleans, La., and College Park, Md. Each office is headed by a fishery marketing specialist, as follows: Seattle, Roy Stevens; San Pedro, S. Ross Hatton; New Orleans, Michael Weissman; and College Park, Hall P. Mefford.

The Seattle office will supervise work done in the States of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. Work in California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona will be directed from the San Pedro office. The New Orleans office will have charge of a working area composed of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee. From College Park the work in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey will be supervised.

The new offices will work to develop fishery-product markets through close contact with: school-lunch programs; locker-plant operators; private and public institutions; restaurants; hotels; press, radio, and television food editors; and other similar interests concerned with the marketing and consumption of fish and shellfish.

The Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, which makes funds available for this work, is designed to strengthen the American commercial fishing industry as a whole. The legislation provides that an amount equal to 30 percent of duties collected under the customs laws on fishery products shall be transferred annually for three years from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Interior. Expenditures for any one year may not exceed \$3,000,000.

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